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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,818	12/31/2001	Joyce Brett	P-3206-15	7824

7590 12/24/2003
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EXAMINER	
MITCHELL, KATHERINE W	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

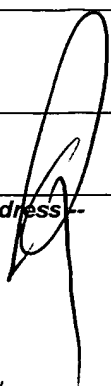
3677

DATE MAILED: 12/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 10/029,818	Applicant(s) BRETT, JOYCE
Examiner Katherine W Mitchell	Art Unit 3677



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2003.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 6/26/2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The use of the trademark BAND AID® has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Although applicant has amended to change to the generic term, examiner notes that the title includes the trademarked term.

2. The amendment filed 10/23/2003 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132 states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: First and second adhesive deposits were never originally disclosed.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate

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paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. First and second adhesive deposits were never shown or disclosed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vesey USP 6455752 in view of Arginsky US D 340,988 and Amen-Ra A, USP 6472039.

➤ Vesey shows a method of arranging for a jewelry display to be worn on a person at a location typically having cosmetics applied comprising an adhesive bandage with a central gauze pad and adhesive strips with overlapping release strips (Fig. 2), and a

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jewelry display 14. A plastic as the bandage material is taught in col 3 lines 22-33, and col 5 lines 20-23 teach a clear plastic bandage is preferable. Vesey states the bandage can be a Johnson & Johnson BAND-AID® bandage, which is suitable for use on skin covered by cosmetics and is at least substantially similar to the BAND AID® used by applicant. However, Vesey does not specifically teach venting openings. Vesey is also silent on first and second adhesive deposits and that rhinestone jewelry is adhesively secured.

- Arginsky teaches an adhesive bandage with decorative value including the use of venting openings in an adhesive bandage.
- As discussed above, the newly-added limitations of first and second adhesive deposits in specific locations is considered new matter, as it is not found in the application as originally filed. However, even if examiner considers this limitation, the originally-filed application provides no benefit or unexpected consequences from such deposits, and thus it would be considered a design choice based on the type of glue, decorations, and bandage.
- Amen-Ra A teaches that body appliqués for attachment to the body, eyelid, etc of a person can include decals, rhinestones, and other decorative elements in col 1 lines 16-50.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the adhesive bandage to have venting openings in view of Arginsky in order to provide a means of allowing the passage of air to the wound to help heal the wound. Rhinestones are an obvious equivalent

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decorative element for body appliqués, as taught by Amen-Ra A. The claimed method is an obvious method of using/forming Vesey's device, and in regards to the placement of such bandage on a person at a location on which a cosmetic is typically applied, the examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known for adhesive bandages to be applied to the face; such is commonly done by a person after an injury resulting from shaving, or when such person has cut or otherwise injured the skin on the face.

Response to Arguments

8. In response to Applicant's argument that Vesey is concerned with the treatment of wounds, and Applicant is concerned with the enhancement of a wearer's appearance, it is pointed out that the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987). And as discussed above, Vesey teaches Applicant's claimed structural limitations; moreover, even so, wearing such a device as Vesey's on a person's face, etc. is well known in the art. Further, Vesey clearly considers the bandage to enhance the wearer's appearance, as the bandage is specifically described as decorative.

Applicant has not argued examiner's Official Notice that BAND AIDS® are known to be used on and suitable for use on a face, which commonly is covered by cosmetics, and thus the point is considered accepted by applicant.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katherine W Mitchell whose telephone number is 703-305-6713. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 10 AM - 8 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. J. Swann can be reached on 703-306-4115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-4180.

Kwm
12/18/2003


James R. Brittain
Primary Examiner